

P L A N

O F T H E

NEWCASTLE DISPENSARY.

Instituted October, 1777.

NEWCASTLE:

Printed by T. SAINT.

MDCCLXXVII.

1892

NEW YORK

NEW YORK

NEW YORK

Printed by T. S. ...

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AT a General Court of the Governors of the NEWCASTLE DISPENSARY, held the 29th day of September, 1777, the following Regulations were confirmed, and ordered to be printed and sold at Six-pence each, for the Benefit of the Charity.

A T A COURT OF THE
JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF
DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
IN SENATE CHAMBER, the 27th day
of September, 1977, the following
Registrars were examined and
ordered to be retained and to be
in good order for the benefit of
the Court.

P L A N

O F T H E

NEWCASTLE DISPENSARY.

THE Design of this Institution is to administer advice and medicines to the Poor, confined to their own habitations by sickness.

Besides other frequent and fatal Diseases to which this useful class of people are liable, it has for its object the
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cure of FEVERS, which, next to the maladies peculiar to the Infant State, commit the greatest havock amongst the human species.

THIS CHARITY also extends its beneficence to the Diseases of Children, viz. the Small Pox, Measles, and many other Complaints, which from improper treatment, or neglect, generally either prove fatal, or render the miserable Sufferers useless to their families and burthenfome to society. When, therefore, it is considered, that no Establishment hitherto subsisting in this populous and commercial Town, has offered relief in these prevalent and dangerous Diseases, the utility of this institution becomes obvious.

It is a melancholy reflection, that at least one-third of Mankind, in this Island,

Infant, die under two years of age; and it is equally to be regretted, that incredible numbers of the industrious Poor are carried off by Diseases, which might have been cured by proper medical assistance.

It was with a view to remedy these evils, and to afford every possible relief to so useful a part of the Community, that several Gentlemen instituted the NEWCASTLE DISPENSARY, and opened it for the admission of Patients in October, 1777.

The INSTITUTORS flatter themselves, that their Undertaking is of such Extent and Importance, as to be ranked amongst the most useful Establishments. They rejoice in the encouragement it has already met with from the Corporation of Newcastle,

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and from several benevolent persons; and they do not doubt, when the utility of the institution is sufficiently considered, but that it will still enjoy a further share of the public liberality and bounty.

REGULATIONS

OF THE

CHARITY.

I. **T**HE limits which the Governors have thought proper, at present, to fix for the visiting of patients at their own habitations, are Shields-Road-Bridge to the eastward, and the utmost extent of the town, to the West, North, and South. That proper objects residing in Gateshead, may be admitted to the benefits of

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the Dispensary, the Governors have agreed that it shall become a district for medical practice, as soon as a sufficient sum is subscribed.

II. As the principal expence attending this institution will be in the article of medicine, the strictest œconomy, consistent with the welfare of the patients, will be observed in the choice and use of the drugs.

III. As the cure of diseases depends much on proper diet, some necessary articles of this sort will be allowed by the Charity, when the patients themselves are not in circumstances to provide them.

IV. The present objects of this Dispensary are to be such poor inhabitants of Newcastle, as cannot receive proper relief

relief from the Newcastle Infirmary; either because the nature of their diseases is such, as renders them unfit to be taken into the house, or makes it unsafe for them to wait till the day of admission.

V. Domestic servants are not to be visited at the houses of their Masters or Mistresses, as that might be deemed an encroachment on the province of the Family Physician and Surgeon.

VI. The town is to be divided into five districts, and one allotted to each Physician, who will take care of the Dispensary-Patients *gratis*; and when he is prevented from attending, he will procure one of his colleagues. The Physicians are to change their districts every three months successively.

VII. As

VII. As medical cases very frequently require chirurgical assistance, a Surgeon will attend on these occasions.

VIII. An Apothecary will reside at the Dispensary, to receive the letters of recommendation, and transmit them to the Physicians; to keep a register of the names, ages, abodes, and diseases of the patients, with the name of the recommender, and attending Physician, the date of the application, and the event of the disease. He will also keep a distinct account of all the receipts and expences of the Dispensary.

IX. The Apothecary is not to be allowed to practise out of the Dispensary, neither is he to prescribe for the patients, nor deliver out medicines, unless by the direction of the Physicians.

X. Each

X. Each patient is to be admitted by a printed letter of recommendation, signed by a Subscriber and addressed to the Apothecary.

XI. Letters of recommendation are to be sent before twelve o'clock of the day; otherwise they will not be complied with till the next day, unless the critical situation of the patient be represented as absolutely requiring speedier attendance.

XII. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, or any of the Aldermen, are to recommend for the Corporation; and the Masters, Wardens, Stewards of Companies, &c. for their respective Societies.

XIII. If the Physician upon first visiting any sick person, find him proper
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to be made a patient of the Infirmary, he will be understood to discharge his duty, in acquainting the patient and recommender with it; that the benefits of the Infirmary may not be abridged, and the two charities may not interfere with each other. The patient, however, is to be continued upon the Dispensary, till such time as a recommendation to the Infirmary can be procured.

XIV. The patient when cured, will be enjoined to return thanks to the person who recommended him; and when dismissed for irregularities, or being an improper object, the Subscriber will be made acquainted with the cause of his dismissal.

XV. Any Subscriber may depute another Subscriber to recommend patients in his stead.

XVI. None

XVI. None but Governors have a vote at any election to be decided by ballot. Ladies will be allowed to vote by any Governor appointed proxy in writing.

XVII. If any sums be subscribed by persons who chuse to conceal their names, the person by whom the subscription is paid, will be entitled to recommend patients in behalf of the anonymous subscriber.

XVIII. Original Subscribers of one guinea per annum, that is, Subscribers previous to October, 1777, are Governors, and have a right to vote on all questions to be decided by ballot.

XIX. No Governors will be allowed
to vote at any court or committee
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whose subscription is not paid to the time of voting.

XX. Governors who have either subscribed five guineas per annum or upwards, or given a benefaction of twenty guineas or upwards, will be entitled to two votes.

XXI. Every Subscriber is to pay his yearly subscription in advance to the Treasurer; and when any Subscriber is two months in arrear, a letter from the committee will be transmitted to him, according to the practice of every charity.

XXII. Every annual subscription will be considered to commence on Michaelmas-day.

XXIII. Each Subscriber of a Guinea, will have the power of recommending
four

four patients annually, and more if the funds of the Charity will admit of it.

XXIV. A subscription of two guineas annually will constitute a Governor, and intitle him to recommend eight patients; and those who give larger sums in proportion.

XXV. Ten guineas at one payment constitute a Governor for life, with a right to recommend eight patients; and incorporated Companies or Societies, giving a benefaction of ten guineas, will be intitled to the same privileges for 12 years.

XXVI. The establishment is to consist of a President, three or more Vice-Presidents, chosen annually, a Treasurer, Secretary, and Court of Governors.

XXVII. A general court is to be held on the first Wednesday in *January, April, July, and October*, in every year, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

XXVIII. A committee of *fifteen* Governors (three of whom are a quorum) chosen at the general courts in April and October, are to meet at the Dispensary on the last Wednesday of every month, to enquire into the œconomy of the house, to read the returns of the sick, to examine the accounts, and to direct such matters as concern the government of the Dispensary. Any Governor may attend this Committee, and is intitled to vote equally with the gentlemen appointed.

XXIX. No drugs are to be purchased for the use of the Dispensary without

without an order from the committee. In cases of absolute necessity, however, the Apothecary is to be allowed to buy drugs, when he has an order under the hand of any of the Physicians.

XXX. Two auditors are to be chosen from the committee to inspect and audit the accompts.

XXXI. The bills are to be discharged by the Treasurer, within a week after they have been passed by the Committee.

XXXII. Two Apothecaries are to be chosen annually, to inspect the drugs and to examine the Druggists Bills.

XXXIII. The report of the Dispensary will be published annually, containing

taining a list of the Subscribers and their subscriptions, a distinct account of the expences, the number of patients admitted, and the Termination of their Diseases.

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The following form of LEGACY is recommended to those who chuse to become Benefactors to this Charity by WILL and TESTAMENT.

I Also give and bequeath unto A. B. and C. D. the sum of £. in trust, to pay the same to the Treasurer for the time being, of THE NEWCASTLE DISPENSARY; which said sum I charge upon my personal estate, and desire the same may may be applied to the benevolent purposes of that institution.

RULES

R U L E S

To be observed by

The P A T I E N T S.

I. **P**ATIENTS are to deliver their recommendatory letters, on their first application at the Dispensary, before twelve o'clock of the day; otherwise they will not be visited until next day, unless their situation be represented to require speedier assistance.

II. If any patient refuse to conform to the direction of the Physician or
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Surgeon, he shall be immediately discharged.

III. The patients are to send the Physician's prescriptions to the Dispensary, by careful persons, who are to behave decently and soberly while there, and to comply with the directions given them.

IV. The Patients are to keep their letters of recommendation under cover, in order to preserve them clean.

V. The patients, when cured, are to deliver in their letters of recommendation at the Dispensary, and afterwards to return thanks to their recommender; or, on neglect, never to be admitted to any future benefit from the Charity.

VI. The

VI. The patient will be furnished with phials, pots, &c. necessary to contain medicines, which when empty, are to be returned, otherwise they will receive no farther assistance.

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RECOMMENDATORY LETTER.

To the Apothecary.

S I R,

I Recommend

habitant of a poor in-

to the bene-

*fit of the Newcastle Dispensary, and
desire that you will transmit this letter
by the bearer to the proper Physician.*

day of 177

Subscriber.

The

COMMITTEE'S LETTER.

Dispensary, Newcastle.

S I R,

*T*HE Committee beg leave to acquaint you that your annual subscription commenced and request that you will transmit it to the Treasurer of the Dispensary. You will please to excuse this application as it is the constant practice of every Charity.

Chairman.

Secretary.

ESTABLISH-

ESTABLISHMENT.

P R E S I D E N T:

The Right Worshipful JOHN BAKER, Esq;
MAYOR.

V I C E P R E S I D E N T S:

CHARLES ATKINSON, Esq;

Mr JONATHAN ORMSTON,

Mr WILLIAM CHAPMAN.

T R E A S U R E R:

MR ROBERT ORMSTON.

S E C R E T A R Y:

Mr GEORGE WALDIE.

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DEPARTMENTS.

PHYSICIANS:

DR BROWN	DR PEMBERTON
DR HALL	DR CLARK
DR ROTHERAM	

SURGEON:

MR JOHN ANDERSON.

CONSULTING SURGEONS:

MR GIBSON | MR LEIGHTON.

APOTHECARY:

MR WILLIAM STUART.

* * * The Town Surgeon for the time being is to attend the patients recommended by the Corporation.

